

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A control method for a magnetic disk drive including magnetic disk media, a slider mounting thereon a magnetic head facing said magnetic disk media, support members for supporting said slider, an actuator for rotatably supporting said support members, an electronic circuit for controlling drive of said actuator and signal processing, and a holding member for holding said slider, the method comprising the steps of:

unload step for starting process for holding said slider on said holding member while reading information from said magnetic disk media through said magnetic head; and

load step for causing said magnetic head to read the information from said magnetic disk media while following said holding member, after starting said process for causing said slider to land from said holding member onto said magnetic disk media.

2. The control method according to Claim 1, wherein

said process for holding said slider following said holding member is divided into two or more steps in advance, and at the end of movement of said slider in each of said two or more steps, the value of a voltage or a current for driving said actuator is stored.

3. The control method according to Claim 1,

wherein

    said process for holding said slider following said holding member is divided into two or more steps in advance, and the value of a voltage or a current for driving said actuator is constant in each of said two or more steps.

4.      A magnetic disk drive, comprising:
  - magnetic disk media;
  - a slider mounting thereon a magnetic head facing said magnetic disk media;
  - support members for supporting said slider;
  - an actuator for rotatably supporting said support members; and
  - an electronic circuit for controlling drive of said actuator and signal processing, the electronic circuit having
    - a function of setting a parameter for driving said actuator in each of said two or more steps for moving said slider while following said holding member and
    - a function of performing a mechanical load/unload operation smoothly using said set parameters.